

IS EUROPE HEAVEN FOR SEPIA THEATRICAL STARS?

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were all confined to the routine of a mere chorus girl, whose only duty was to dance in unison to the beat of an orchestra starring someone else. No one noticed that Josephine had a wiggle all her own—a wiggle that

but whose stage personalities and skill are captivating.

But Josephine was not at all satisfied to remain in the background. She realized that her dancing was done in an original and distinctly unique manner so she took her chance and

recognized that he had talent for he had already been prominently featured in several shows. But he had never, never been recognized as capable of the amazing performances that he has consistently made abroad. Again a Negro star sought foreign fields to win his fame. Again he was rewarded—and handsomely. Today Noble Sissle and his orchestra



Premier of Rolfe's Revy Stockholm, Sweden, at Paramount's China Theatre last May. Ernest Rolfe and comedians, with Josephine Hall, who made special trip to Stockholm to appear in revue sponsored by Mr. Rolfe. He will appear soon in America, having signed a long contract with Paramount. This may mean work in films for our group, as Mr. Rolfe is very kind toward those in the profession. Josephine Hall, at the extreme left, is the only one of her race in the show.

was destined to make the world sit up and take notice. Nor was anyone supposed to, since other than physical attractions, that is the size of the calf, the curve of the hips, the attraction of the face, are not supposed to engage the attention of an audience who has paid its fare to see stars such as the late Florence Mills, Bill Robinson and others whose figures and facial attractions are less

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started on her own.

From poverty and obscurity in the United States, Josephine "Black Bottomed" her way to fame and wealth abroad. In a short while she began to exceed even her own fondest hopes. She became a movie star, her starring picture being the "Siren of the Tropics." She toured country after country until her name blazed forth on every newspaper abroad. In fact, Europe wondered how such an attraction could escape America's notice.

Such was the rise of a pretty little brown-skinned girl from a poor little \$20 a week chorus girl to a heaven of fame and wealth.

But Josephine is not the only one who has shared the milk and honey of Europe's Negro Heaven, look at Noble Sissle! At the famous Society rendezvous, "Les Ambassadeurs," in Paris, Noble has played dance music like "nobody's business." Irene Castle McLaughlin, Peggy Hopkins Joyce and many others well known throughout the world have commended this jazz artist for the marvellous manner in which he puts over a song. Even Jascha Heifetz, the classic wizard of the violin, said of the Noble Sissle band that it was "a fine band unequalled." Others equally as distinguished have praised this successful Negro orchestra.

But over here in America, Noble Sissle directed just another Negro orchestra. Of course, it was well

known as the "Aces of Syncopation," is, perhaps, the best known jazz attraction in all Europe.

In an entirely different field stands Paul Robeson, the most superbly versatile individual the Negro race has produced. As an artist he has proved his mettle both on the stage and in the concert hall. His magnificent deep voice has "brought down" many a house in blond, Nordic England. His singing of Negro spirituals has many times been characterized as unsurpassed. While his recent triumph in the Shakespearean role of "Othello," has never been equalled by white or black actor.

He, of all the successes in Europe, met with more recognition in America than any. His acting in the "Emperor Jones" really brought him before the critical American public. His scholastic achievements and his athletic prowess were the forerunners of a brilliant career. However, it was not until he had triumphantly gone abroad that he won his greatest ovations.

So complete and sustained has been his magnificent reception in England that he has secured himself a palatial home in an exclusive London residential district where, with his charming wife and son, he now lives. England, if not Europe, has truly been heaven to the great Robeson.

Individual Negro actors of lesser renown have been eminently successful in Europe when their ability in America has failed to make the grade. Many have starred in various productions over there that were not accessible to them over here. They have proved time and time again that merit will win, even though it seek foreign fields to do so.

Other sepiu teams who have won sustained success abroad, are Layton and Johnstone, whose song and dance specialties brought them unrivalled popularity in London. Their pictures appeared frequently in the London Tatler beside that of the Prince of Wales.

Josephine Hall, well known blues singer and cabaret entertainer, was very recently the only Negro member of a cast that appeared in Stockholm, Sweden. She is credited with having given a stellar performance.

Opportunity plus ability is perhaps the most logical reason for the tremendous success of Negro actors and actresses abroad. In America, the talent of colored theatrical stars is well recognized but the opportunity is not commensurate with their ability.

But in Europe the belief is that when better entertainers are born, they will be Negroes. So isn't Europe heaven for sepiu theatrical stars?

Don't Boast About Your Love Affairs

Have you a puzzling love affair on which you need friendly advice? Write to Julia Jerome, care of this newspaper. If you wish a personal reply please send a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

Julia Jerome

A young lady of St. Louis has talked herself into trouble.

My dear Mrs. Jerome:—

Six months ago I left my home town for the city. I was then engaged to a young man, who as soon as his school was out, was to follow me and we were to marry. But lately he wrote me he never wished to see me again. It happened this way. I wrote to a girl friend of mine at home that I had a lot of new admirers who fancied me greatly judging by the way they lavished their attentions upon me. Then the mean girl showed my letter to my fiancé. Now, I really love no one but him, the others I only play with. How shall I win his love and respect back?

FOOLISH.

My dear, don't you know the first law of love is reticence?

Of course, your young man is angry—you would be too in his position! And don't you know you can never trust even your best friend where a man is concerned? Your good times probably made her envious, possibly she saw that your boy friend was behaving himself better than you were and she thought you didn't deserve to keep him. Perhaps, she wanted him herself. Anyway, you got what was due you.

However, since you do love him I believe, with a little strategy, you can win him back. Write your girl friend how heart-broken you are; what a lesson this has taught you, and that even if you never win your fiancé back you intend to remain

faithful to his memory.

If you make it convincing enough you will gain her sympathy and she will show the letter to him and in time he will surely soften. If one letter doesn't work, write several. Tell her you have lost your appetite, you are growing thin, that you dream of nothing but your lost love. And try to make your life conform at least in part to your letters.

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